

Crime Commission Update

November - December 2008



<http://www.ncc.ne.gov>

Dave Heineman, Governor

2008 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Law Enforcement Training Center

- The total course offerings during 2008 were:
118 courses
2,126 students
108,948 training hours
- Basic Officer Certification - 3 sessions held, 127 graduates, 76,962 hours of training.
- Basic Jail Certification - 2 sessions, 43 graduates, 3,440 training hours.
- Management Certification - 3 sessions, 23 graduates, 552 training hours.
- Reciprocity/Reserve Certification - mostly on-line computer training, 2 sessions, 18 graduates, 1,860 training hours.
- Supervision Certification - 3 sessions, 57 graduates, 1,368 training hours.
- Specialized Courses - 69 courses offered, 892 students, 24,360 training hours. Specialized courses included dispatcher, civil process, critical incident response, defensive tactics instructor, emergency vehicle operations instructor, firearms instructor, field training officer, telecommunicator, instructor development, police service dog, rifle instructor, sheriff's continuing education, spontaneous knife defense, survival shooting and taser instructor.
- Drug Grant Courses - 10 courses offered, 260 students, 3,293 training hours.
- Highway Safety Courses - 23 courses offered, 706 students, 9,813 training hours.

Other accomplishments at the Training Center during 2008 included:

- Staff was reorganized and the Deputy Director Administration position was eliminated and replaced with an information technology support staff to deliver additional support to instructors, students and clerical staff. This change added a necessary layer of redundancy to the information technology function and improved the organizational structure. The Deputy Director Training position remains unchanged.
- Computer Lab - Software was updated to Office 2007 and computer hardware was also upgraded.
- Operating instructions were written to standardize the processes for charging tuition to separated students and to provide guidance for denial of student applications.
- Procedure Manual - The Training Center policy manual was updated and some new procedures were added. Procedures were reviewed by the end users prior to being finalized.
- Reserve Officers - A meeting was held in Kearney to discuss the current status of the reserve officer training program. Representatives from 55 agencies attended this meeting.
- Security Improvements - A number of enhanced security measures were put into effect in 2008. All but the front doors of the facility will be locked, and students will have three doors available for entry using their room key. A mandatory photo identification or uniform policy is in effect and a security camera system is being installed.

Grants Division

During 2008, more than 200 grants were sub-granted totaling \$7,300,000 in the areas of Juvenile Justice, Juvenile County Aid, Victim Services, Drug and Violent Crime, Violence Against Women, Meth Initiatives and Safe Neighborhoods.

Accomplishments of the Grants Division include:

- Juvenile handbooks were made available in Spanish, Vietnamese and Arabic. Criminal Justice brochures used by crime victims were made available in Spanish.
- Our Juvenile Compliance monitoring identified some gaps in training regarding the separation of adults and juveniles in detention facilities. Training will be provided by our staff at the 2009 LECC conference to address this issue. Our staff also worked with detention centers to clarify federal guidelines and assist with process changes.
- Our victim services staff person provided information needed to prepare for legislative changes to judicial notification and protection order compliance. These changes are a federal requirement.
- The Grants Division assumed administration of a new grant program in 2008:
 - *The Methamphetamine Initiative Competitive grant program provides federal funds to law enforcement agencies for training, equipment and physicals as well as enhancing prosecutorial and treatment efforts.
- Staff met with project personnel funded with Anti-Drug and Violent Crime federal funds to plan for possible reductions to future funds.
- Grant management training sessions were conducted by staff for subgrant program directors and fiscal officers. These sessions provide information on Crime Commission grant procedures and federal requirements.

Information Services Division

- Staff continued the operation and enhancement of NCJIS (Nebraska Criminal Justice Information System). NCJIS is a data portal which provides internet-based access to a wide variety of criminal justice data.

The data available on NCJIS includes criminal histories, court records, jail and corrections data, probationers, motor vehicle records, child abuse reports and Department of Labor records. NCJIS has more than 6,000 users from more than 350 state, local and federal agencies. In FY 07-08, there were more than 2,600,000 searches conducted on NCJIS.

- The CJIS Technology Conference was held in North Platte and included presentations on state, local and federal information technology projects.
- The Crime Commission's website was enhanced to include data on crimes and arrests with searches defined by the user.
- The Division is participating in a multi-state data sharing project with Alabama, Kansas, Wyoming and Tennessee.
- The Division continued to either collect data or publish reports on (1) Crime in Nebraska, (2) Motor Vehicle Stops/Racial Profiling, (3) Hate Crimes, (4) Criminal Homicide and (5) the Uniform Crime Data Analysis System.

Jail Standards Division

- Staff from this division inspected 77 jail facilities for compliance with Nebraska's jail standards.
- Technical assistance was provided to seven counties who were either planning new jail construction or renovations to existing jails.
- Staff provided training to local jailers on legal issues, initial jail training, diversity issues, jail standards and foundation skills for trainers.
- Staff planned and facilitated a three day Jail Standards conference in Columbus.

Summary

The Crime Commission has always been a small agency, with 20 employees in Lincoln and 19 at the Law Enforcement Training Center in Grand Island. Over the years, the Commission has assumed the role of an "umbrella" agency in the criminal justice arena with the unofficial role of facilitator for several criminal justice projects.

GENERAL ELECTION RESULTS

Following are some of the election results from the November 4 General Election. More information is available on the Secretary of State's website at www.sos.ne.gov.

U.S. Senator	=	Mike Johanns
U.S. Representative		
District One	=	Jeff Fortenberry
District Two	=	Lee Terry
District Three	=	Adrian Smith

Nebraska Legislature

District 1	=	Lavon Heidemann (re-elected)
District 3	=	Scott Price
District 5	=	Heath Mello
District 7	=	Jeremiah Nordquist
District 9	=	Gwen Howard (re-elected)
District 11	=	Brenda J. Council
District 13	=	Tanya Cook

District 15	=	Charlie Janssen
District 17	=	Robert J. Giese
District 18	=	Scott Lautenbaugh (re-elected)
District 19	=	Mike Flood (re-elected)
District 21	=	Ken Haar
District 23	=	Chris Langemeier (re-elected)
District 25	=	Kathy Campbell
District 27	=	Colby Coash
District 29	=	Tony Fulton (re-elected)
District 31	=	Rich Pahls (re-elected)
District 33	=	Dennis Utter
District 35	=	Mike Gloor
District 37	=	Galen Hadley
District 39	=	Beau McCoy
District 41	=	Kate Sullivan
District 43	=	Deb Fischer (re-elected)
District 45	=	Abbie Cornett (re-elected)
District 47	=	Ken Schilz
District 49	=	LeRoy J. Loudon (re-elected)

CRIME COMMISSION WEBSITE: NEW ONLINE SEARCHES

Two new statistical queries have recently been added to the Crime Commission's website. Both of these queries are based upon the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) data and the NIBRS (Nebraska Incident-Based Reporting System) data for the years 2000 through 2007. The first query is a query of offenses (crimes) reported. The second query is a crime rate query based upon the number of offenses per 1,000 population. The queries may be run for statewide numbers or broken out by city or county.

We encourage you to check out the new queries as well as the other queries for arrests and juvenile court data. They are available at <http://www.ncc.state.ne.us>.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE VIDEO LIBRARY

The following videos have been added to the library and are available for loan:

CELL SHAKEDOWN AND INMATE SEARCH (DVD)

27 Minutes Command and Control: 2000 AD

This program is effective in training new correctional officers as part of an orientation program or for in-service training. This video contains: (1) Reasons for searches, including the wrong reasons. (2) How to conduct a cell shakedown, including tools needed, common places to hide contraband, and how to document each search. (3) Inmate searches, including procedures for clothed and unclothed searches. An instructor's manual is available.

MANAGING INMATES IN CROWDED CONDITIONS (DVD)

23 Minutes Command and Control: 2000 AD

This program is effective in training new correctional officers as part of an orientation program or for in-service training. This video contains: (1) Definition of crowding. (2) Reasons for crowding. (3) The Challenge, i.e. safety for inmates and staff, court rulings, and liability. (4) The Indicators of Crowding. (5) Dealing with Crowding, including the four c's of crowded prison management. (6) Areas of Concern, including the five p's of crowding. An instructor's manual is available.

DRUG RECOGNITION EXPERTS (DVD)

30 Minutes In the Line of Duty: 2008 AD

Impaired drivers may be under the influence of substances other than alcohol, e.g. illegal drugs and over-the-counter medications. A drug recognition expert (DRE) has the expertise to detect substances beyond alcohol which may be affecting a person's behavior. This video includes segments on (1) DRE determinations – a 12 step process; (2) tools of the trade for a DRE; (3) DRE appearances at high schools; and (4) drug categories.

INMATE CON GAMES: A NEW LOOK AT AN OLD PROBLEM (DVD)

18 Minutes Command and Control: 2001 AD

This program is effective in training new correctional officers as part of an orientation program or for in-service training. This video contains segments on (1) the reasons inmates manipulate staff; (2) who is susceptible to a setup; (3) the five roles of the setup team (observer, contact, runner, point man, and the turner); (4) the stages of a setup; and (5) how to avoid con games. An instructor's manual is available.

NOTES...

- Lieutenant Colonel Darrell Fisher, the Assistant Superintendent of the Nebraska State Patrol, with retire on December 31, 2008, after 29 years of service. He will be replaced by Investigative Services Major Dave Sankey.
- Governor Heineman has announced the award of more than \$330,000 in grants from federal highway safety funds to Nebraska law enforcement agencies. A total of 17 police departments and 25 sheriff offices received these grants to install 99 new in-car camera systems. These systems aid in the apprehension and prosecution of drinking drivers as well as providing a measure of safety for the officers. A breakdown of these grants can be found on the Governor's website.
- The Office for Victims of Crime is sponsoring "The Ultimate Trainer" in Denver, Colorado from February 10-12, 2009. This training opportunity provides practical skills you need to plan, develop, implement and evaluate quality training programs.

Registration for this workshop will be available beginning January 5, 2009 at www.ovcttac.gov/trainingcenter/training.cfm.

THOUGHT(S) FOR THE DAY

On Books:

- “The smallest bookstore still contains more ideas of worth than have been presented in the entire history of television.”

~Andrew Ross

- “When you sell a man a book you don’t sell just twelve ounces of paper and ink and glue– you sell him a whole new life.”

~Christopher Morley

Happy Holidays
from the staff of the
Nebraska Crime Commission

